



## Mission Partners and Missions of FRC

Many opportunities are presented to support our Mission Partners and Mission projects. Below is a list of Missionaries and Missions supported by First Reformed Church. they could all use your prayer support.

- Every **Wednesday**, as a part of Midweek Activities there is **Midweek Prayer** at 5pm and Midweek Meal starting at 5:30pm with Midweek Classes for all ages at 6:30pm.
- **Communion Love Offerings** – Communion Sundays are times to respond to what we have been given by giving back. Some months will involve a distribution offering for local partners. Other months, when a distribution offering is not collected, funds will be received for the Mission Fund to help promote and support our mission partners. Please write "missions" in the memo line of your check.
- **Nourishing Our Neighbors** – Every Tuesday evening invites you to fellowship and help feed a group of homeless and/or needy neighbors of the Oak Harbor area, right here at FRC. If you are interested, there are many opportunities you may take advantage of from food prep, serving, and clean up. All you need is a willing heart and a food worker card.

## MISSIONARY PARTNERS

### RCA – Jaime & Martha Amaro

Oaxaca, Mexico – (Information from [www.rca.org](http://www.rca.org))



Martha and Jaime Amaro became Christians when they heard the gospel from a missionary. Now doing mission work themselves, the Amaro's help the Presbyterian Church in Mexico by providing training workshops for the Children and Worship program.

They have a vision to see the Children and Worship program in use throughout Mexico within three years. The Amaro's also do translating work; they have been translating "Growing in the Faith" discipleship materials into Spanish, which are used to train church leaders. The Amaro's have two children, Jaime Jr. and Alex.

They are supported by the Reformed Church in America. FRC Youth had a Mission Trip to Oaxaca in the summer of 2015 and the Amaro's visited FRC in the spring of 2016.

### RCA – Andrew & Amy Fields

Medellin, Columbia – (Information from [www.rca.org](http://www.rca.org))

Evangelical congregations in Colombia are hungry for well-trained leaders who can guide the people of God to live and love like Jesus. But good opportunities for theological education have not kept pace with the growth and needs of local congregations. The Colombian Biblical Seminary (FUSBC) in Medellin is addressing this need through quality pastoral training for future leaders throughout Colombia and Latin America.

Andrew and Amy serve alongside Colombian colleagues at FUSBC to equip the next generation of church leaders in Latin America by teaching Bible and theology courses, mentoring



students, and developing the seminary library. In addition, they work with local congregations to foster opportunities for mutual missional engagement.

FRC has supported Andrew and Amy since they started their mission work, first in Honduras and now in Columbia.

## **Children of the Promise**

(Information from [www.childrenofthepromise.org](http://www.childrenofthepromise.org))

Children of the Promise is dedicated to caring for the physical, emotional, medical, and spiritual needs of sick and malnourished infants/toddlers in Northern Haiti. Their main mission is to take in these babies for three months to help return them to full health and allow their family time to get back on their feet if they are going through a difficult time. Once a child is healthy enough, they reunite them with their biological family. If this is not able to happen then COTP helps facilitate an adoption for the child.



COTP also has several programs to empower families to be able to care for their infants on their own. These programs include the Formula, Prenatal, School Sponsorship, Medika Mamba programs.

Another big part of their mission is employment. COTP currently has a staff of about 80 local Haitians that work as Nannies, Laundry Ladies, Cooks, Adoption Workers, and Yard Guys. They have seen amazing changes in the community through the jobs they are able to provide and are able to empower the employees to be able to better provide for the needs of their families.

FRC led a special drive and purchased a new generator for COPT in 2016. The extra electricity can be sold to those who need it in the community. Mission funds also provide an avenue for leading the nannies and others to Christ, which can be carried throughout the community. FRC sent a group to COPT on a mission trip in the summer of 2016.

## **Words of Hope (PROJECT BASED)**

(Information from [www.woh.org](http://www.woh.org))

Words of HOPE (WOH) pursues a single, well-defined mission: To proclaim Jesus Christ through broadcasting in the languages of the world's peoples, seeking with their partners in ministry to build the church by winning the uncommitted to faith in Christ and by encouraging Christians in the life of discipleship.

WOH principal focus from the beginning has been the use of radio to communicate the gospel. Radio is universally available; it reaches large numbers of people, including those who are illiterate or living in "closed" areas of the world; and as a word-centered medium it is uniquely suitable for conveying the message of the Bible and its implications for all of life.

FRC partnered with WOH to build a transmitter for a radio station in Chiapas, Mexico in 2014.

## **Short Term Missions - FRC**

Recent partners include:

- Children of the Promise (Haiti) - 2016
- The Amaro's (Oaxaca) – 2015 & 2017

# HONORARIUM MISSIONARY PARTNERS

**Mike & Karen Kotecki** - Navigators  
(Information from [www.navigators.org](http://www.navigators.org))

"To Know Christ and To Make Him Known®" aptly describes what Navigators do. As we befriend those who don't know Jesus or those just starting out in their relationship with Him, we show them how to grow, and how to help others grow, too. We help people "navigate" life by establishing life-on-life mentoring—or discipling—relationships with them, equipping them to make an impact on those around them for God's glory.



In early 2014, Mike and Karen moved from Oak Harbor and made a new home in Kaiserslautern, Germany where they are working with several military bases.

They have been a part of FRC for more than 20 years, when they have returned to our area.

**Rod & Margi Powell** - East West Ministries  
Israel (Information from [www.eastwest.org](http://www.eastwest.org))

East-West exists to mobilize the Body of Christ to evangelize the lost and equip local believers to multiply disciples and healthy churches among unreached peoples and/or in restricted access communities. Rod and Margie are currently serving in Israel.



Rod has been close to FRC since he was a young man and Margi has joined him in staying close throughout their marriage. FRC raised money in 2015 to help support the housing they use to help further God's word.

**Judy Ongna-Becker** - International Students, Inc.  
Dallas, Texas area (Information from [www.isionline.org](http://www.isionline.org))

International Students, Inc. exists to share Christ's love with international college students. Since 1953, ISI has been training Americans to meet international students' needs. These Americans befriend international students and help them adjust to American culture.

Judy is a child of FRC. Judy's mission is to share the love of Jesus Christ with international students at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX. Most of the students are graduate students and many will be future leaders in their home countries when they return home. SMU currently has over 1,400 international students who come primarily from non-Christian countries. These students are eager to learn about life in the United States and are curious about our Christian heritage and religion. The students are away from the constricts of home and family that often dampens or prohibits seekers of the Gospel. Judy has weekly studies and various events including camping, a Houston Space Center trip, and a ranch weekend retreat. With each



contact she prays she shows them the love of Jesus and opens the door for questions about Christ's saving grace and love. For those who have found Christ, she works to develop their disciple-making skills which they will take back to their own countries.

### **Mark & Jan Cichowski**

Mark & Jan volunteer to restore both physical and spiritual blindness in impoverished areas of the world by performing surgeries, rural outreaches, and mentoring/training national doctors and nurses.

They work with Mission hospitals and Christian Medical ministries such as Samaritans Purse and Medical Ministries International.

*"Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is right? But even if you do suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence." 1 Peter 3:13-15*

Mark and Jan are members of FRC and raised their family here.

### **John & Kathy Beers – Gospel for Asia**

Primarily South East Asia (Information from [www.gfa.org](http://www.gfa.org))



Gospel for Asia's mission is to share the Good News of Jesus with those who have never heard his name. They train and send national missionaries to reach out into areas where the Good News of Jesus Christ has not yet been heard.

John is a part of the Leadership Team at GFA, helping specifically by sharing the message of GFA throughout the United States. John also mentors and guides the work in the US, as well as several GFA offices in other countries. Kathy serves daily in the Donor Services Department at the US Office in Wills Point, TX. Kathy's parents are FRC members and she grew up attending FRC as a child.

## **DISTRIBUTION PARTNERS**

### **FRC Benevolence Fund**

FRC partners with other area churches to assist our local community members when individuals are faced with hardships. The funds that FRC uses are from the Deacons Fund and is administered through our Health and Mercy Ministry, directed by FRC member/volunteer, Joann Hoover. The help offered is first to those from FRC, then those with children and lastly to those on their own. Sometimes financial assistance is not available, but referral to other agencies in Oak Harbor are offered. Those requesting help are interviewed with a Deacon present and the request is then reviewed by another Deacon before a decision is made. Funds are then sent to the entity owed. An annual offering is collected to support this ministry.

**Pregnancy Care Clinic (PCC)** – (Information from <http://islandspcc.org/>)

PCC offers confidential Christian-based counselling services for expectant mothers and fathers. One of the most important things PCC does is walk alongside pregnant women to help them take time to explore their options. Pregnancy Care Clinic has friendly staff that gladly help sort out feelings, emotions and share the facts clients need to know. They offer pregnancy testing, ultrasound exams, abortion counselling and educational opportunities. Their "Earn While You Learn" program allows education on parenting while participants earn "Boutique Bucks" and "Dad Bucks" that can be used to purchase all the new or next-to-new items needed for baby. Pregnancy Care Clinic neither performs nor refers for abortions.

FRC participates in the annual Baby Bottle Boomerang raising funds for PCC.

**North Whidbey Help House** – (Information from FACEBOOK)

The mission of NW Help House is to provide assistance to those in need in our community in an impartial and dignified manner. They provide supplemental/emergency food, Salvation Army prescription vouchers once a year, and telephone health and welfare checkups via their tele-care program. They work with other human service agencies in our community to ensure that they are prepared to offer the best possible assistance in not only improving lifestyles, but striving towards independence from the need for assistance. They are located at 1091 SE Hathaway Street in Oak Harbor. The Help House is always thankful for any food or monetary donations throughout the year and appreciate anyone willing to volunteer.

FRC participates in the annual Christmas in July Food Drive. An opportunity is provided each month to donate foods most needed by the Help House at that time.

**CADA (Citizens Against Domestic and Sexual Abuse)** – (Information from [www.cadacanhelp.org](http://www.cadacanhelp.org) )

CADA provides free and confidential assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse, elder abuse, stalking, child abuse or neglect. CADA services include a 24-hour crisis line, crisis intervention, advocacy, safety planning, legal advocacy, court support, medical advocacy, information and referral to community resources and emergency shelter. They also offer community education programs to youth and adults. Annually, the congregation of FRC purchases and collects personal hygiene, educational, and other items to support CADA efforts.

**Samaritans Purse – Operation Christmas Child** – (Information from [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org))

Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

During November each year, FRC collects and packs shoe boxes to support Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child program. Shoe boxes are packed each year to bless children in need around the world. Long before the shoe boxes arrive, national leadership teams train local pastors and leaders to bless children and share the Gospel to their communities. Pastors around the world host shoebox distributions in places where people may not know Christ and invite them to follow Him. Other churches use the boxes as resources for outreach in orphanages and other at-risk areas. In many places, they also offer The Greatest Gift, a Gospel story booklet Samaritan's Purse developed for shoebox recipients.